

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, a cross-reference to related applications has been inserted in page 1. A discussion of prior art has been inserted on page 3. Original claims 1-10 have been replaced with new claims 11-20. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
LUTZ FINK

By: Edward R. Freedman
Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No. 26,048
Attorneys for Applicant

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802
ERF/llv

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 871 448 235 US

Date of Deposit: December 11, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to BOX PCT, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.

Lisa L. Vulpis
Lisa L. Vulpis

10010000121101